column of 'Dainik Jagaran', dated 7th June, 2002 highlighting the mode of functioning of the personnel working in the courts and record rooms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government would take concrete steps to remove such irregularities prevalent in the courts and take stringent action against the persons obstructing justice; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The news-item condemns action of strick by the Union of Court staff in Karkardooma in Delhi over the arrest of a record keeper for not furnishing record of a case for one year. The arrest was made on the direction of the Metropolitan Magistrate.

(c) and (d) As reported in the news-item the court has already taken action against the delinquent employee. The control over District Courts and courts subordinate thereto in the NCT of Delhi vest with the High Court of Delhi.

The Chief Justice every year nominates a group of Judical Officers under his direct supervision and control for the purpose of inspection and vigilance.

Family Courts in Andhra Pradesh

546. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received for setting-up of new family courts in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of existing family courts in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) and (b) The High Court of Andhra Pradesh has informed that on a proposal made by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and keeping in view the pendency of cases falling under the

purview of the Family Courts Act, it has recommended establishment of one Family Court in each district-totalling 23 in the State of Andhra Pradesh, and one addtional Family Court at Hyderabad. These courts would be in addition to the seven Family Courts functioning in the State of Andhra Pradesh. This proposal is pending for considering of the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Existing Family Courts in Andhra Pradesh are located in the following districts/places:

Hyderabad; Secunderabad; Vijayawada; Kurnool; Warangal; Vishakhapatnam and Tirupathi.

Further, the Court of Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge for trial of Jubilee Hills Car Bomb Blast Case, Hyderabad has been redesignated as Addtional Metropolitan Sessions Judge for trial of Jubilee Hills Car Bomb Blast Case Hyderabad-cum-Addl. Family Court, Hyderabad.

Setting up of Family Courts

547. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Family Courts set up, so far, State-wise;

(b) the number of Family Courts to be added this year, State-wise; and

(c) how much of the cost for new Family Courts is to be shared by Government?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) 96 Family Courts have been set up, in the State/ Union Territories so far. The State/Union Territory-wise details are as follows:

Andhra Pradesh-7; Assam-1; Bihar-2; Gujarat-4; Jharkhand-4; Jammu & Kashimr-1; Karnataka-9; Kerala-7; Madhya Pradesh-7; Maharashtra-16; Manipur-1; Orissa-2; Rajasthan-6; Sikkim-1; Tamil Nadu-6; Uttar Pradesh-14; Uttaranchal-5; West Bengal-2 and Pondicherry-1.

(b) The following 24 Family Courts are further proposed to be added this year: